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#### Golden Spatula



— Melanie Hirsig —  
"My favourite bat is *Macrodarma gigas*."

First, to all of you who wrote in last week: no, the Golden Spatula award is *not* a hovel for rabid bats, rather it is a chance for us to recognize journalistic non-diseasedness! This week we would like to thank *Melanie Hirsig* for all of her office loitering, office assisting, story doing, news-editor-helping and any other tasks we forgot to recognize-doing. Thanks Melanie, you're probably not going to get rabies!

#### Furor Arma Ministrat

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The *Gauntlet* is the official student newspaper of the University of Calgary, published most Thursdays throughout the year by the Gauntlet Publications Society, an autonomous, incorporated body. Membership in the society is open to undergraduate students at the U of C, but all members of the university community are encouraged to contribute. Opinions contained herein are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire *Gauntlet* staff. Editorials are chosen by the majority of the editorial board. The *Gauntlet* is a forum open to all U of C students but may refuse any submission judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic, libelous, or containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. We reserve the right to edit for brevity. Grievances regarding the *Gauntlet* follow a three-step process which requires written decisions from the Editor, the GPS Board of Directors, and the Ombudsboard. The complete Grievance Policy is online at: <http://thegauntlet.ca>. The *Gauntlet* is printed on recycled paper and uses a censorship based ink. We urge you to recycle/silence the *Gauntlet*.

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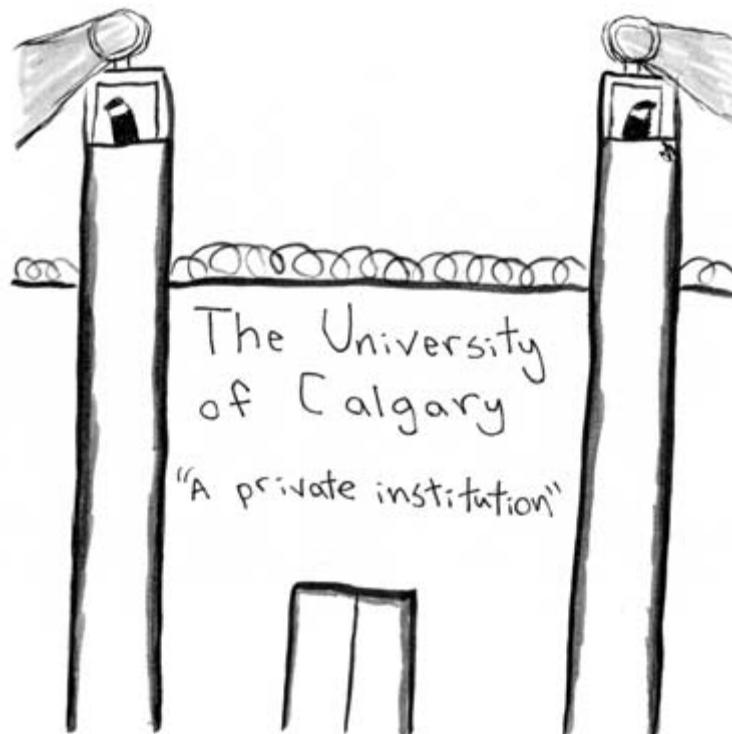
Letters must be typed, double-spaced and received by Monday at 4 p.m., and must include the author's name, student ID number, telephone number and signature. Letters will not be printed if they include attacks of a strictly personal nature, statements that discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or sexual orientation, or libelous or defamatory material. All letters should be addressed to "Editor, the *Gauntlet*," and be no longer than 300 words. The *Gauntlet* retains the right to edit submissions. Letters can be delivered or mailed to the *Gauntlet* office, Room 319 MacEwan Students' Centre, or sent by email to [editor@thegauntlet.ca](mailto:editor@thegauntlet.ca).

# Under threat: free speech on campus

The quest for free speech at the University of Calgary might not be settled for a while. After four years of battle between two students who were charged with non-academic misconduct by the U of C, Keith and Steven Pridgen, and university administration, a freedom that most students think is their right is still threatened. This case reveals a great deal about how university administration feels about free expression, and how administration thinks image is more important than the value of speaking the truth.

Keith and Steven Pridgen took a Law and Society course in 2007 taught by Aruna Mitra. After the course was over, a student started a Facebook page called "I no longer fear Hell, I took a course with Aruna Mitra," on which both Pridgens commented. According to students who took the class, Mitra, who was teaching the class for the first time, claimed that she was a full-time professor when in fact she was only a sessional instructor. She also made wildly inaccurate statements, like claiming that Magna Carta was an agreement between First Nations people and the government.

The Pridgens and other members of the class were called for a U of C disciplinary hearing, where Keith was put on probation for 24 months and both were ordered to never again post defamatory material about a member of the university community. The case went to (real) court, where a Court of Queen's Bench judge ruled that the U of C lacks the right to prevent students from commenting on the quality



of instruction they receive, because the Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects freedom of speech.

This month, the U of C appealed that ruling, claiming that the university is a private institution, and is thus not subject to abide by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Only the government and its organizations must obey the Charter, and, the U of C claims, it's not a government institution, and so is exempt from following the Charter. A lawyer for the U of C claimed at the appeal that the administration must have the autonomy to discipline students how it sees fit.

Although most have taken umbrage with the U of C's claim that it's a private institution, in some

sense the private versus public debate is not the biggest problem with this longwinded saga. What's really at issue — the factor that caused the students to complain on the Facebook page, and that causes the Pridgens to continue fighting — is that the students weren't given their due. They have been treated unfairly.

After all, if the administration recognized that the class was poorly run, that the instructor was unqualified to teach that class, and that her marking was unfair, this wouldn't have become such a problem. But that's not what happened. The university isn't debating the veracity of the claims the Pridgens have made — no one is disputing

that Mitra really said that Magna Carta was an agreement involving First Nations people. And according to the Pridgens' lawyer, all 17 students who appealed their grades had them increased, so claims that Mitra graded the class unfairly are true.

It isn't difficult to see how this event could have been better handled.

The U of C shouldn't have had the goal of controlling its image down to the level of Facebook posts. It's one thing to try to have defamatory material removed, but the U of C isn't claiming that anything defamatory was said. The U of C also shouldn't have had a reasonable non-academic misconduct panel in place, instead of the one the Pridgens had to endure, which involved the dean of the department (who is Mitra's partner) participating. The conflict of interest is astounding.

But now the U of C has missed its chance. While they have made changes to the non-academic misconduct process, they can't back out of this trial, because they will be forced to admit they went against what is sensible, within reason and just.

Administration failed to do the right thing, and now students have no way of knowing that in the future it won't happen again. Regardless of the outcome of the appeal, administration should account for its mistakes — not because what happened was against the law, but because it's the right thing to do.

*Gauntlet* Editorial Board

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# Students continue freedom of speech fight against U of C

## Applicability of Charter of Rights and Freedoms to universities debated in court appeal

**Kaye Coholan**

Volunteer Coordinator

If Keith Pridgen has to work every day for the rest of his life to fight the University of Calgary, he will.

He said these words in an interview last week after hearing the university argue before the Alberta Court of Appeal on Nov. 9 that the institution should not be bound by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Pridgen is a former U of C student who, along with his brother Steven, was sanctioned in 2008 for posting comments to a Facebook group about a professor at the university.

“What we did was say something that was true about a professor, and the university just didn’t like it,” Pridgen said. “It simply is absurd that the university is pursuing this and trying to claim that it’s not bound by the Charter.”

The university is appealing part of a decision made by the Court of Queen’s Bench last year that said it infringed on the brothers’ rights by disciplining them for their on-line criticism of sessional professor Aruna Mitra, who was teaching a law and society class for the first time.

According to a statement published in UToday on Nov. 17, although the university “believes in and supports the values espoused in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms,” it doesn’t want to have to abide by them fearing that “the autonomous nature of universities is removed — and we find ourselves as an arm of the government — then the effectiveness of the learning environment itself may be compromised.”

The university, which is backed by the University of Alberta and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, argues that be-



Gauntlet Archives

Former student Keith Pridgen is waiting for a decision from the Court of Appeal. Pridgen took the university to court after he was disciplined in 2007 for criticizing a professor on Facebook.

ing bound by the Charter will challenge its autonomy and could compromise the learning environment.

“Specifically, the university’s credibility in conducting independent research and commenting on public policy matters could be at risk,” Charlene Anderson, University of Calgary general counsel, said in the statement.

Pridgen’s attorney, Tim Boyle, said this is not the case, as the Canadian government already has influence over public universities.

“This we see as a nonsensical argument because under current legislation the government can do anything it wants,” Boyle said. “They can put the university into receivership if they want, they can appoint governors, they even have

a hand in curriculum development.”

The government doesn’t require a decision by the court in order to exert its influence on universities, he added.

As part of its case, the university is pointing to a decision made by the Supreme Court of Canada in 1990 that said the University of Guelph did not violate the Charter by imposing a mandatory retirement age.

Boyle said the U of C is using that ruling to suggest that the Charter never applies to universities. But he argues that in actuality the decision reflects the opposite, that the Charter applies in some but not all instances. “Our position is that the case of student discipline

is the most obvious area where the Charter should apply to university governance,” he said.

The university shifted its focus to the applicability of the Charter after it was unable to prove that any part of Pridgen’s Facebook post was untrue.

Under the Charter, any person in Canada has a number of civil rights, including freedom of thought, freedom of belief, and freedom of expression.

Pridgen’s concern is the threat to students’ freedom of expression, particularly when it comes to fair comment. “It is really shocking to me. It still blows my mind that in 2007 I took a course with a professor who was terrible and I wrote it,” Pridgen said. “I told people things that were true and I was given two years of academic probation.

“The university is supposed to be a place where freedom of speech is not only tolerated, but also encouraged,” he said.

The university also said the Pridgen case brought attention to the need for amendments to its non-academic misconduct policy, which was most recently revised last month.

According to the U of C, improvements to its disciplinary policy include centralizing non-academic misconduct procedures in order to make them consistent for all students across campus and allowing for decisions made under the non-academic misconduct policy to be appealed.

But Boyle argues that the university’s changes to the policy are insidious and will allow for control of the attitudes and behaviours of students, even when they are not on campus.

For example, the entire disciplinary process is now overseen by the office of the provost. “The structure of the new system they have, in my

see PRIDGEN, page 7

### Pridgen vs. U of C Timeline

**Fall 2007** – Pridgen brothers take Law and Society 201 with Aruna Mitra. She receives 3.06/7 for overall instruction on the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction form. Pridgen said they talked to the instructor and dean about the quality of teaching and no action was taken. The Facebook group, “I no longer fear Hell, I took a course with Aruna Mitra” was then created.

**Fall 2008** – Over a dozen students received notice of non-academic misconduct charges. Keith Pridgen was sentenced to 24 months probation and was ordered to write an apology letter.

**Late Fall 2008** – Pridgen appealed to the general faculties council and the council reduced his sentence to 4 months and removed the apology requirement.

**Winter 2009** – Pridgen appealed to the Board of Governors but the appeal was rejected.

**Fall, 2009** – The Pridgen brothers applied for a judicial review at the Court of Queen’s Bench, seeking a judicial review of the university’s decision to place Keith on academic probation.

**Nov. 2009** – There was a deadline for all the documents to be submitted to the court. The university did not provide the documents until a week and a half before the court date in February 2010, which caused the appeal to be pushed back.

**Oct. 2010** – The U of C was deemed to have no grounds to reprimand those responsible, saying they “did not cause harm.”

**Dec. 2010** – University appealed the ruling by the Court of Queen’s Bench.

compiled by Susan Anderson

### How free do you feel criticizing a professor’s quality of teaching?



“We should be able to say what we think of them, but there is a line.”  
– Dylan Beesley,  
second-year  
chemistry



“We should be able to critique if it relates to the class.”  
– Becky Holt,  
second-year math



“You should be able to criticize them as much as you can in a respectful means.”  
– Kyle Stewart,  
fifth-year urban  
studies



“It needs to be approached with tact.”  
– Hayleigh Bird,  
first-year education

# Undergraduate Research Symposium

Symposium highlights innovative undergraduate research at the U of C

**Michael Grondin**  
News Assistant

Undergraduates at the University of Calgary have been given a unique opportunity to showcase their hard work and research at the sixth annual Undergraduate Research Symposium.

On Nov. 24, 130 students from many different faculties presented a wide range of research topics.

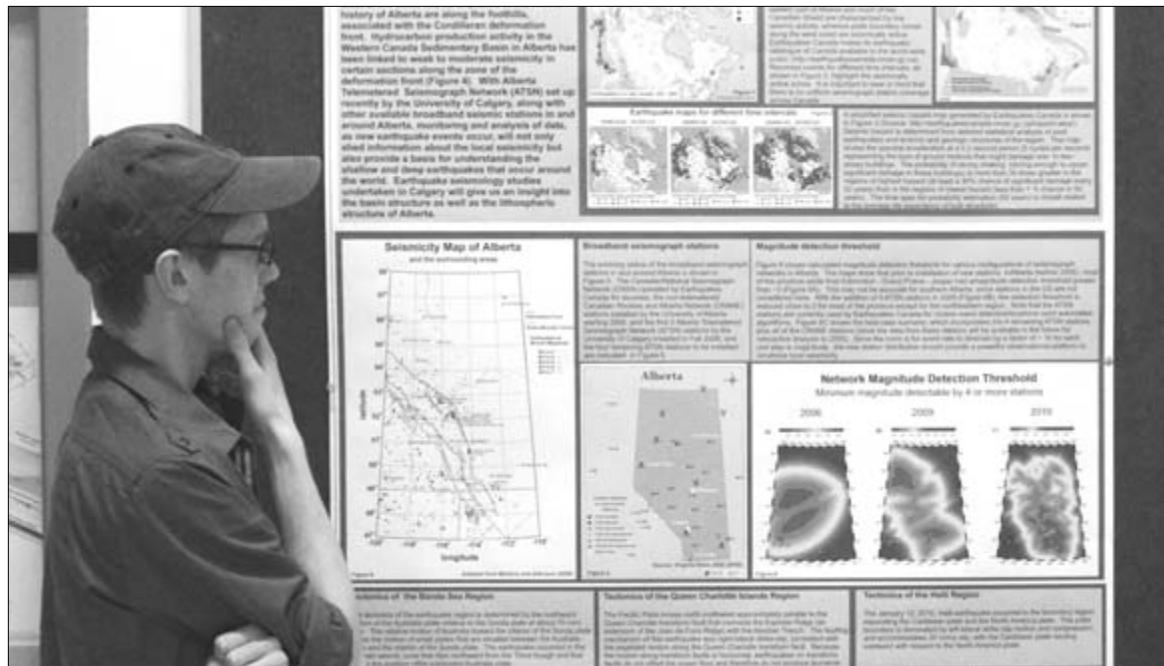
According to Students' Union vice-president academic Ola Mohajer, this interdisciplinary event brings students together and gives them a chance to reach their academic goals.

"At a lot of universities, it's not as common for undergraduates to be able to reach the calibre of research that the students here are able to," said Mohajer. "So, it would only be natural that someone recognizes that, and it was the Students' Union that decided to recognize the importance of these students' work."

Mohajer stresses how individualized research, like the projects these students are working on, can exemplify the learning process. "I would say undergraduate research is important for a huge number of reasons," said Mohajer. "You're doing your own work for your benefit, with your own questions and your own inquiry, so it's much more creative."

She said students learn a lot from that process because they are leading themselves.

There was such a large de-



Aly Gulamhusein/the Gauntlet

The Undergraduate Research Symposium will showcase work from 130 students this Thursday.

mand to be a part of this event, students had to be turned away this year. The event has grown in recent years in the number of participants as well as prize money. Over \$21,000 in awards will be handed out this year.

On Nov. 25 three undergrads will be giving oral presentations on their work.

Fifth-year computer science student Bon Aseniero, one of the chosen three, will be talking about his attempts to interact with memories, using computer technologies like Microsoft Kinect.

"My research is under the area of human-computer interaction to go into the realm of memory," said Aseniero. "What we have

## 130

Number of students who are participating in the symposium this year. Approximately 20 students were turned away due to increased demand to participate.

## 6

Number of years the Undergraduate Research Symposium has occurred at the U of C. The SU initiative began to showcase undergraduate student work in 2005.

right now are videos, pictures, journals and things like that as placeholders for our memories, and we thought 'what if we can actually put some kind of inter-

## 21,000

Amount of award money in dollars to be awarded to participants this year. Award money has continued to increase in recent years. Last year \$12,000 was awarded to students.

## 500

Awards range from \$500 to \$1000 dollars. Some examples include the Future Alumni Award, Office of Sustainability Social Sustainability award and the SU honour Thesis award.

action towards revisiting them."

Aseniero is trying to find a way to use technological tools that use motion and video to tap into experiences of the past. He

said being able to showcase his work at this event is very beneficial to himself, as well as the university.

"I think the symposium gives students like me a chance to actually be able to show what we are working on and what we're doing to the rest of the community," said Aseniero. "Also, it's a really good opportunity for undergrad students who want to get a master's or a PhD, and it can prepare us for what's ahead."

Fourth-year psychology student Jessica Pow will be giving an oral presentation on 'unforgiveness' and the advantages of not forgiving.

"Although there has been a lot of research on forgiveness and a large assumption has been placed that it's always good to forgive, there has been very little research on 'unforgiveness,'" said Pow, who looked at a large array of victims, transgressors and close family and friends of victims to determine the reasons why people choose to forgive or not.

She said that an event like the Undergraduate Research Symposium gives student researchers proper attention.

"It can help students gain important feedback that they can't get anywhere else," said Pow. "In the past, it was hard to interpret my own results, and this has forced me to really solidify what I think about this topic."

The oral presentations and award ceremony will be held Nov. 25 in MacHall Ballroom at 6 p.m.

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# New autism centre built on campus

The Ability Hub's unique architecture is designed to grow with kids

**Kaleem Kahn**  
Gauntlet News

Autism is a developmental disorder that on average, 1 in 100 people have. Males are four times as likely to be affected.

Symptoms of Autism include language issues, a lack of social skills and the inability to maintain eye contact. With rates increasing every year, the University of Calgary's Child Development Centre and the newly founded Ability Hub aim to aggregate data regarding mental disorders from Canada as well as around the world.

Built in 2007, the CDC has gained the highest rating by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification. As the largest LEED healthcare building in Canada, it integrates practical community-based programs with research on autism.

"Say, for example, you're a medical student and you're taking a course on early brain development. You can actually come in and observe in that environment or even come in and do a practicum," said Margaret



Amanda Zotek/the Gauntlet

The Ability Hub opened at the U of C's Child Development Centre in October.

Clarke, executive director of the Sinneave Foundation, which funds the Ability Hub. The second floor houses child development services such as the autism clinic, a fetal alcohol syndrome clinic, a child abuse program, and a family violence program.

Attached are research and policy arms, including the Alberta

Centre for Child, Family and Community Research.

The Ability Hub, newly opened in October 2011, is focused on services and programs for people with autism. The goal of the new centre is to follow kids with autism past the early years and teach independent living skills as they grow. The centre features

architecture designed with autism in mind, with sound dampening panels, flickerless lights and curved walls.

"As someone who works here everyday, I can tell you that I do feel much better everyday," said Clarke about helping kids and adults with autism.

For more information about the Ability Hub visit [theabilityhub.org](http://theabilityhub.org)

## Programs at the Ability Hub

The centre's five programs are aimed at helping the community and furthering knowledge.

**Community-based programs with applied science** — Focuses on applying science to programs for people with autism.

**Broader research and training across Canada and the world** — University students can travel to Montreal, Banff and Romania to research and study.

**What workers who work with autism need to know** — Professionals, such as teachers, doctors and caregivers are educated on what science is teaching us about autism.

**Accommodation and wraparound services** — Focuses on providing housing for autistic adults. Most people with autism tend to live with their parents.

**Assembling a database of current autism information** — The centre focuses on making information about autism more accessible to the public.

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Michael Grondin/the Gauntlet

## Michaëlle Jean receives honorary degree

U of C president Elizabeth Cannon looks on as the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, former Governor General of Canada and human rights activist, stopped by the university of Calgary to receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree on Nov. 1. Jean was the 27th Governor General and Commander in Chief of Canada from 2005 to 2010. "Thank you, thank you so much," she said during the ceremony. "Conferring upon me the degree of Doctor of Laws is such an honour. I am very touched by this gesture because it comes from a world class institution of higher learning that has always strived to implicate the notions of civic responsibility and public good among its students and faculty."

## Pridgen, cont'd from page 4

view, is completely antithetical to the principles of natural justice and procedural fairness," Boyle said. "If you had one body acting as police, prosecutor, judge and court of appeal, you would probably realize that's not a very good system. That's what the university has right now in its internal disciplinary process."

U of C Students' Union vice-president academic Ola Mohajer has also expressed concern regarding student representation on the committees involved in handled non-academic misconduct at the university.

The Students-At-Risk Evaluation Team, which responds to students who face a significant disciplinary sanction and whose physical or mental state may threaten themselves or others, does not include a student representative.

"If a student is brought to the Students-At-Risk Evaluation Team and there isn't anyone there to bring the student perspective, it can be quite scary for a student who has been accused to stand before a committee they may feel is not understanding of their perspective," Mohajer said.

A student representative does sit on the Appeal Board, to which students can contend disciplinary action, but Mohajer said the process through which that student is selected needs greater clarity.

"The way the student representative is chosen has not been made transparent to me when I've asked," she said, adding that she has voiced her concerns and that she is awaiting the result, as the non-academic misconduct policy is currently under review.

Mohajer expects to see a first draft of the review by the end of the academic year.

In the Pridgen case, the justices have up to one year to release their decision.

Pridgen, who graduated from the U of C earlier this year, said the experience has made him more aware of the potential for free speech to be "quashed" at Canadian universities.

"This is not about me, not about my brother, or about other students in the class," Pridgen said. "This is about students all across Canada being able to express themselves freely."

# MMI

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# Medicine students raise awareness about poverty

Emily Macphail  
Gauntlet News

On Dec. 1, 2011, roughly 300 people will sit down to a meal in the Health Sciences building. Of these 300, 37 will be enjoying a generous steak dinner with multiple side dishes. The remaining 263 will have in front of them a modest portion of a vegetarian meal, similar to that which sustains around 90 per cent of the world's population on a daily basis.

First held in 2009, the Rich Man, Poor Man Dinner is an annual event put on by the Global and Public Health Interest Group — a group of students from the university's Faculty of



Aly Gulamhusein/the Gauntlet

The Rich Man, Poor Man Dinner is happening on Dec. 1

Medicine — to raise money and awareness for various public health initiatives.

In 2009, the event raised over \$13,000 towards the opening of the student-run clinic at the Cal-

gary Drop-In Centre. The funds enabled volunteer training, clinic expansion and research, all of which are aimed at improving medical treatment access for Calgary's homeless population.

**“Not only does it create dialogue about disparities in our global and local communities but it looks at how we can close those gaps.**

— Kimberly Williams,  
Global Health vice-president

In 2010, proceeds from the dinner totalled over \$30,000 and were used in the start-up of a medical clinic in Bouly, located in Haiti's Central Plateau area.

Organizers of the event are aiming for an even better turn-

out this year and are hoping to raise around \$50,000. The evening will be Tanzanian-themed, as this is where the Global Generation Fund — the recipient of this year's proceeds — is based. Food and entertainment will reflect Tanzanian culture. Co-chair of the Global Consensus for Social Accountability of Medical Schools and family practice professor at the University of British Columbia Robert F. Woollard will be speaking at the event. He has assisted in developing community-based education in Canada and around the globe. He is currently working with Nepal, Indonesia and African countries on their primary care and accreditation systems.

A smaller portion of this year's proceeds are allocated for maintenance and continuation of the work of the student-run clinic, which currently has about 42 student volunteers from the U of C medical school. The money earmarked for the clinic will be used for yearly operating expenses — such as clinic supplies and administration — as well as a speaker series in which physicians from a variety of specialties are brought in to educate D1 clients on different aspects of health.

As for the proceeds going to the Global Generation Fund, organizers say they will likely be used partially to run a conference for primary health educators in East Africa.

According to first-year vice-president of Global Health Kimberly Williams, one of this year's organizers, the initial Rich Man, Poor Man Dinner “started to try to create awareness and get the broader community involved in thinking about global impacts and things that are closer to home, [while] raising money for organizations that are making a difference.”

Although the dinner's concept is not unique to this event, with similar suppers held by multiple organizations, the impact is still significant.

“Not only does it create dialogue about disparities in our global and local communities,” said Williams, but more importantly, “it looks at how we can close those gaps.”

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# JON LAJOIE

YouTube sensation  
leaves the basement  
for mainstream  
comedy



courtesy FX

**Jordan Clermont**  
Gauntlet Entertainment

Jon Lajoie kills people. At least, that's the impression you might get if you saw the title of his latest Canadian tour, which includes a stop at the MacEwan Ballroom on Nov. 24.

The "I Kill People" tour takes its name from Lajoie's hit music parody of the same name. The video, which as of publication time has accumulated over 23 million views on YouTube, is just one of many in a long line of successful online music parodies and sketches created by Lajoie.

Lajoie first gained popularity in late 2007 and early 2008 with viral YouTube videos like "Show Me Your Genitals," "High as Fuck," and "Everyday Normal Guy." But the Montreal comedian, who graduated from the theatre program at Montreal's Dawson College, has been able to succeed where others have failed — he

has turned a YouTube following into a viable career in comedy. In addition to his online videos and comedy tours, Lajoie is currently a part of the cast on FX Networks Canada's *The League*, a semi-scripted comedy show about fantasy football that just wrapped filming for its third season.

Judging from Lajoie's videos and his performance as the loveable stoner Taco on *The League*, it may seem like comedy and Lajoie go hand-in-hand, but Lajoie explains that this wasn't always the case.

"I didn't really know that I could do comedy," says Lajoie. "I was doing some acting in Montreal. I was in a band for a while and then the band broke up . . . I had a lot of time on my hands."

Using his new-found freedom, Lajoie began creating comedy sketches and songs and posting them on YouTube. His first video, "High as Fuck," a song about being, well, high as fuck, quickly garnered mass online attention.

Lajoie says that realizing that people were watching his videos provided him with the impetus to keep "working at it."

Though Lajoie might not have believed he had any future as a comedian, he was interested in comedy from a young age. He cites Canadian comedy troupe The Kids in the Hall as one of his biggest influences.

"They introduced me to comedy, really, and they kind of shaped my sense of humour as a kid — you know, their dark, absurdist, kind-of-crazy sense of humour."

Both The Kids in the Hall and Lajoie subscribe to the belief that either everything is okay to make fun of, or nothing is.

"It's all about how you do it. There's a way of making a joke about anything."

Lajoie is certainly not worried about being offensive, shown by songs like "Michael Jackson is Dead," which accuses the mainstream media of hypocrisy in

decrying the late pop star for his eccentricity and then proceeding to praise him as a genius after his death. While this is completely true, few would be bold enough to make a song about it.

"I don't try to get too preachy, but sometimes . . . I'll have something to say and I'll put it in a song," explains Lajoie.

Talking about how the experience of creating differs from a live show, Lajoie says that it's quite a different delivery style but that the same essence is still there.

"What I like about a live show is that it's still me unfiltered . . . I write the show alone, and it's all kind of me."

Lajoie also says he likes having a crowd in front of him because that way, if he doesn't hit the mark with a joke, it gets thrown back in his face right away. This, he explains, "isn't all that different from the internet, but on the internet you assume that it's just bitter people sitting in their mom's basement

commenting on your video. In a live show, if a joke doesn't go well, it's like, 'these are my fans. If these guys don't like the joke, I don't know who will.'"

With Lajoie's YouTube videos consistently passing the one-million-view mark, coupled with positive reviews of *The League*, it's safe to say that Lajoie doesn't need to worry about his style of comedy not hitting the mark with fans. That being said, Lajoie shows no signs of slowing down.

"I'm just gonna try to write some more stuff and shoot some more sketches . . . the goal is to get the TV thing going, so I am spending a lot of time on that. Hopefully we'll have more news about that in 2012."

In making the jump from Montreal college kid to touring comedian, Lajoie has proven to be one of the country's most successful sketch performers of the YouTube age — and one rising talent for Canada to watch.

# The beginning of a new comic era

Calgary's Maad Sheep Productions seeks to reanimate declining medium of print comics

Sean Willett

with files from Andréa Rojas  
Entertainment Assistant

The comic book industry has seen better days. After years of plummeting sales and waning interest in the medium, the twin titans of Marvel and DC are on what appears to be their last legs. Traditional superhero comics are quickly losing their relevance in today's world, where the target audience consists of more than just white male teenagers.

While Marvel seems to have recognized its own ineptitude, as evidenced by the introduction of a mixed-race protagonist in the *Ultimate Spider-Man* series, DC has only reinforced its antiquity with its recent "New 52" reboot. The usual cast of muscular white men

and over-sexualized women is still intact, and issues like sexism are more pervasive than ever. While efforts like these might have led to slight sales boosts, they fail to address the problems that have been driving consumers away in droves.

The decline of Marvel and DC doesn't herald the end of the comic book industry. It does, however, mark the end of an era filled with uninspired stagnation. The stage has been set for a new wave of publishers to come forward and bring comics back.

The most exciting potential lies in the many independent publishers that are swiftly gaining popularity in this changing market. With the comic-buying public gravitating away from larger companies, independent creators finally have their chance to truly flourish.

Enter writer Dan Lenfest-Jameson

and artist Calan Lovstrom. These high school friends are the founding members of Maad Sheep, a Calgary-based comics production group. Their objective is simple: "To write, produce and promote independent comic books and culture throughout Calgary and Canada."

Maad Sheep is a truly independent operation. Both Dan and Calan work full-time jobs outside the comic industry, but this in no way means they lack dedication. They treat Maad Sheep as their "second full-time job," spending their time not making comics working conventions across the country.

The pair channels a fierce love of comics into their work. "When it comes to it, we're fans first," Dan discloses. "We started working together because we both passionately love comics." Their pas-



Aly Gulathusein/the Gauntlet

Calan Lovstrom (left) and Dan Lenfest-Jameson make up Calgary-based comic company Maad Sheep Productions.

sion is matched by their ambition, as they are currently putting out two series, with a third on the way.

*Quiver Street*, Maad Sheep's first series, is what Calan calls "a friendship comic." The characters are based off Calan's personal experiences and focuses on a band of teenagers trying to survive without their parents. Their second series, *Willie Lightning*, stands in stark contrast to the "light-hearted" *Quiver Street*. Telling the story of an elderly black man gifted with supernatural

abilities, *Willie Lightning* touches on heavier issues such as racism and gang violence. The duo aims to challenge their readers to take a closer look at the human condition.

"That's what comics, I think, in their best form do. They challenge the reader not only to look at the world around them but to also look inside," says Dan.

The comics themselves, however, have the unfortunate marks of a creative team new to the medium. While the ideas present in these



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NARROWCASTED NEWS

Fridays at 11:30 am...

Hello, I'm Gauntlet Entertainment Editor, Andréa Rojas. This week (Nov. 25), I'll be talking about my year spent in a U of C sorority. We'll also be talking to Aleesha Bray about the "It Gets Better" project — a video project aimed at LGBTQ youth.

Hosted by Remi Watts and a Big Bunch of Crazy People...

90.9 FM  
CALGARY  
cjsw

series show a massive amount of potential, the writing can often be a bit heavy-handed and almost devoid of nuance. The plots of both series are unfocused — *Quiver Street* is almost incomprehensible despite its strong characterization.

Visually, both series are quite appealing. Panels often lack a certain sense of flow, however, and *Willie Lightning's* Kevin O'Neill-esque art style could benefit from an occasional splash of colour. Some questionable font and shading choices also serve to detract from the striking aesthetic quality of the books.

Despite these flaws, both series exhibit an enormous amount of potential for interesting and thought-provoking storytelling. As Dan and Calan continue to grow and mature as artists the quality of their work will undoubtedly skyrocket — noticeable improvement is seen from one issue to the next.

Free from the constraints of a publisher's demands, Maad Sheep will only continue to develop and flourish in coming years. Additionally, with the comic book industry rapidly changing, it will soon be up to independent groups like Maad Sheep to take the reins and steer the medium onto a new path.

As a consumer, you can do your part to change the industry — the best way to support independent creators is by buying their books. With their comics being sold at retailers across the city, hopefully Dan and Calan's success will encourage more local creators to step up and start bringing this fading medium back into relevance.

Learn more about Maad Sheep Productions at [maadsheep.com](http://maadsheep.com)

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## Graphic novel review: *Space Cadet*

**Sarah Dorchak**  
Features Editor

A short graphic novel bursting with stars, heart and tears, *Space Cadet* is the second written experiment from Canadian DJ Kid Koala, and a work worthy of attention.

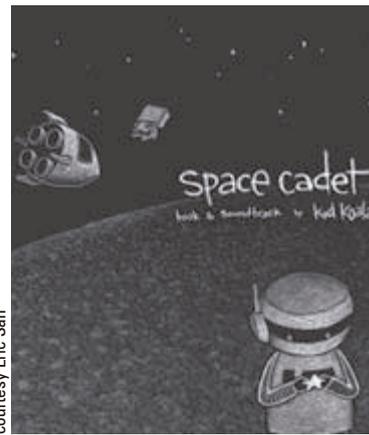
The story, meant to be experienced through image, text and sound, features a guardian robot unsure of what to do with his life now that his charge has left home to be a space explorer.

White sketches on a black background give the story an ethereal feel, making you feel guilty about holding it without gloves on. The artwork is very impressive. Kid Koala, who normally scratches on a turntable, manages to style his artwork in the same way: white scratches on a black background give *Space Cadet* a unique

aesthetic look. The lack of dialogue forces you to pay attention to each panel and draws you into the emotion of the story. The end of the book leaves the reader with a bittersweet appreciation for whoever guided them through their own childhood.

I preferred to read *Space Cadet* without the soundtrack provided on an accompanying CD. The CD's tracks are organized by page numbers, implying that when this track plays you should have reached this page by then.

When the graphic novel is read at the reader's own pace, however, unconstrained by having to keep up with a sonic accompaniment, one doesn't feel pressured to turn the page, or feel obligated to wait for the songs to catch up. Kid Koala could have done a better job at synchronizing the book with the CD, as the shortest track takes up the



courtesy Eric San

10 or more pages that contained the novel's most important content.

This is not to say the CD itself is not worthwhile. The music aptly establishes the story's mood and character's emotion, no matter how disruptive it may be to the flow of the narrative itself.

The amount of effort, charm and

heart put into this novel is clear. The book describes itself as a "tomorrow-days lullaby about finding your place in the universe," but it seems more like an exploration by the author to find a creative fit. He has an obvious interest in branching out artistically, but an animation short would have better synchronized Kid Koala's CD and art, both in terms of timing and mood shifts.

*Space Cadet's* marketability might be limited — it is mostly young-adult consumers that purchase graphic novels, but the subject matter is more sombre and emotionally mature than these same individuals may prefer. The \$30 price tag is a little hefty as well.

Despite the troubled unification of book and CD and issues with potential marketability, Kid Koala has created a great piece of work with *Space Cadet*.

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spun ALBUM REVIEWS

**TOP 20** \*canadian artist \*\*local artist  
 for the week of nov. 14/11

- 1 **VARIOUS\*\*** *Tunes For Baboons: Live Sessions From C.JSW 90.9 FM* (C.JSW)
- 2 **BITTER FICTIONS\*\*** *Looper Pedal Bliss* (Shaking Box)
- 3 **FOONYAP AND THE ROAR\*\*** *Foonyap And The Roar* (Self-Released)
- 4 **CROOKED FINGERS** *Breaks In The Armor* (Merge)
- 5 **RICH AUCOIN\*** *We're All Dying To Live* (Sonic)
- 6 **CRIPPLE CREEK FAIRIES\*\*** *The Suction* (Transistor 86)
- 7 **SAID THE WHALE\*** *New Brighton* (Hidden Pony)
- 8 **BONNIE 'PRINCE' BILLY** *Wolfroy Goes To Town* (Drag City)
- 9 **DEER TICK** *Divine Providence* (Partisan)
- 10 **SPENCER JO & JOSEPH BARLEY\*\*** *The Kitchen Chorus Songbook* (Self-Released)
- 11 **BITTER FICTIONS\*\*** *Percolator Glitch* (Shaking Box)
- 12 **BLACK PESTILENCE\*\*** *Tradition Is Obsolete* (Fungi)
- 13 **DNTEL** *Life Is Full Of Possibilities* (Sub Pop)
- 14 **THE MAGNETIC NORTH\*\*** *Constellations* (Vik)
- 15 **MIESHA & THE SPANKS\*\* / THE SPHINX** *Split EP* (Self-Released)
- 16 **THE LIONS\*\*** *Iconoclastic: Motion Picture Soundtrack* (Self-Released)
- 17 **TOWNSHIP\*** *Future Confusion* (Revolution Winter)
- 18 **VARIOUS\*** *Dad Jamz* (Revolution Winter)
- 19 **JOM COMYN\*** *Sunstroke EP* (Old Ugly)
- 20 **JONTI** *Twirlgig* (Stones Throw)

**HIP HOP/FUNK/SOUL**

- 1 **9TH WONDER** *The Wonder Years* (Traffic)
- 2 **MAYER HAWTHORNE** *How Do You Do* (Universal Republic)
- 3 **M.E.D. Classic** (Stones Throw)
- 4 **PHONTE** *Charity Starts At Home* (The Foreign Exchange)
- 5 **JC BROOKS & THE UPTOWN SOUND** *Want More* (Bloodshot)

**WORLD**

- 1 **THE LIJADU SISTERS** *Danger* (Knitting Factory)
- 2 **VARIOUS** *Arctic Paradise 2012* (Fimic)
- 3 **EL RÉGO** *El Rego* (Daptone)
- 4 **ILAIYARAJA** *Solla Solla* (B-Music/Finders Keepers)
- 5 **VARIOUS** *Life Is Dance!* (B-Music/Finders Keepers)

**SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY**



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**KAT'S PICKS**

- 1 **PTERODACTYL**
- 2 **DILLON**
- 3 **CAVEMAN**
- 4 **BRY WEBB\***
- 5 **AND SO I WATCH YOU FROM AFAR**

**LIVE BANDS ON-AIR**

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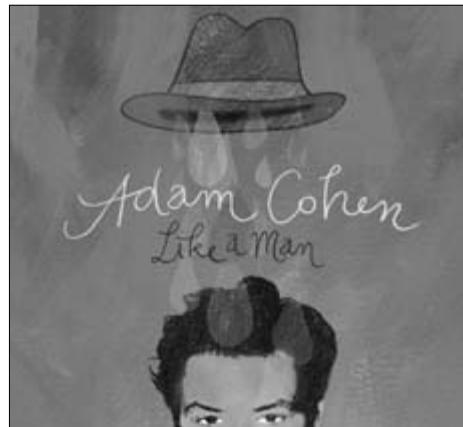
**Simon TJ**  
*Each Sparrow*  
 (September 24, independent release)

*Each Sparrow* is local talent Simon TJ's first CD. With this release, the lyricist, pianist and vocalist creates a harmonious yet dark sound using only a piano and his voice.

The songs on this pop/soft-rock album explore the contrasting themes of love and loss, and existence and death. On a positive note, his voice is uniquely expressive. His sound is crisp and clear and the lyrics are easily understood, which is a good thing, because he has a lot to say. The lyrics are the most striking feature of this album because they are heartfelt, raw, and thought-provoking. The piano accompaniment is harmonious and does not overpower TJ's soulful voice. Unfortunately, the overall tone of the album is melancholy and bleak. It borders on spiritual, but is uninspiring — Simon TJ is like a dark Barry Manilow.

The first song, "Wanna Feel Alright," is the most upbeat of the album. The rest of the songs descend in mood to become downright depressing. An example is the song "The Blinding Light" — its main subject matter is the white light one sees when "crossing over." These songs are mournful and talk too much about death and the loss of love, but if you are in the mood to contemplate your own existence, then give this album a listen.

Heather J. Rideout



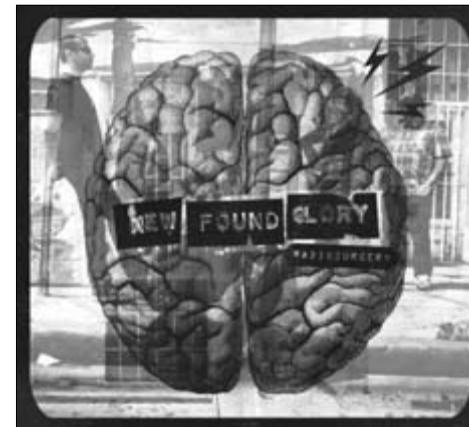
**Adam Cohen**  
*Like a Man*  
 (October 4, Cooking Vinyl)

Adam Cohen's third solo album is much more connected to his family tree than his previous works. In the style of his father, Leonard Cohen, Adam uses a nylon string guitar and his husky and melancholic voice to sing simple, sweet and poetic love songs dedicated, in part, to all his past girlfriends.

*Like a Man*, devoted to the young son who inspired his return to music, is a wonderfully introspective glimpse into the complex and deeply intimate relationships between a father and son, between lovers and between those fleeting moments when strangers connect. It is deeply reminiscent of his father's work, undoubtedly a major influence on the younger Cohen, but there is an undeniable undercurrent of Adam himself. His lyrics are more straightforward, tender and sparse than his father's.

As the name of the album indicates, Adam Cohen has come into his own. The delicately crafted lyrics range from whimsical with the richly layered imagery of "Out of Bed" ("I'd start a new religion based on your silhouette") to earthy in the breathy and slowly strummed "Sweet Dominique" ("Our clothes began to wrinkle like bed sheets"). *Like a Man* is a gorgeous tribute to Adam Cohen's genes — a continuity of sorts that he finally wants be a part of.

Manal Sheikh



**New Found Glory**  
*Radiosurgery*  
 (October 4, Epitaph Records)

New Found Glory has been instrumental in the pop-punk genre. On *Radiosurgery*, their most recent album, they've incorporated an early '90s feel reminiscent of Green Day's *Dookie*, representing a return to their earlier punk roots.

While pop-punk bands are somewhat limited in their ability to mature by the very nature of the genre, this album brings with it a stronger sound, if not stronger content. Many of the songs start with catchy hooks, and their anthemic feel adds interest to the album. Unfortunately, the energy found in the beginning of the songs doesn't last, and it is hard to listen to certain songs all the way through because of this.

This is a band that you need to be in the right mood to listen to, but it certainly has its place — *Radiosurgery* is the perfect album to take you back to your high-school days. Its upbeat rhythms and melodies, crisp guitar and light lyrics get you up and moving. Despite being known for their energetic live performances, New Found Glory don't seem as invested on this studio album, and *Radiosurgery* feels a little forced at times.

If you are looking for more of New Found Glory's regular material, you should take a look at this album. *Radiosurgery*, however, is ultimately repetitive and a little lacklustre.

Dylann Golbeck

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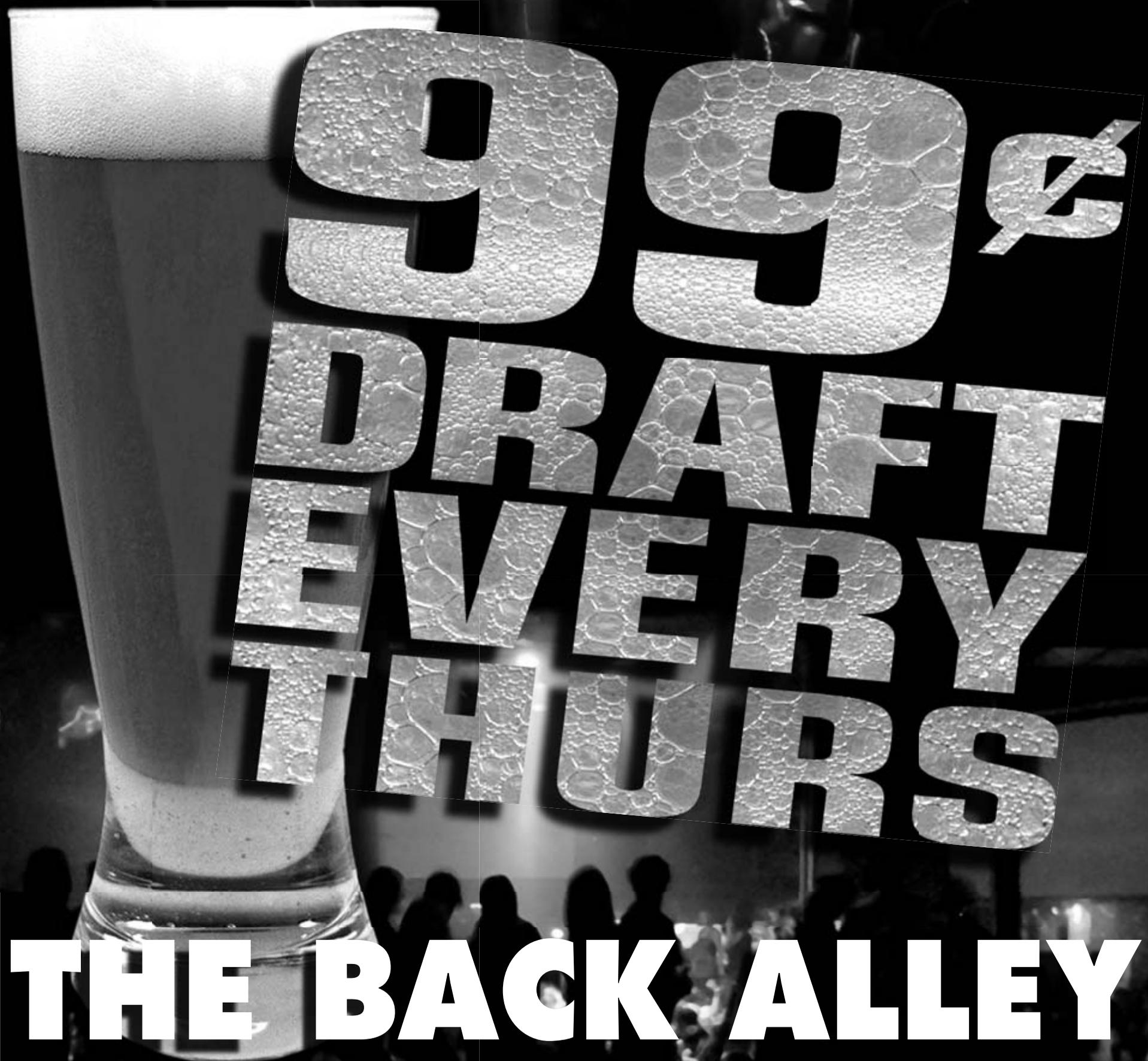
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# Andréa Rojas

## Why I Left a U of C Sorority

After experiencing U of C sorority life first-hand, I am comfortable asserting that although the institution of the sorority is theoretically predicated on the principles of eternal friendship and unconditional love, it is implicitly rooted in the three tenets of sexual identity construction, image and power. It's not fair to extrapolate my experience to apply to every single chapter of every single sorority at every single institution of post-secondary learning in North America. Nevertheless, refraining from specifying to which sorority I belonged, as my words are not intended to be an attack targeted at one specific organization, I present a critique of an institution that claims to empower women, but oftentimes accomplishes precisely the opposite.

A sorority is a collegiate society originally conceived of in the 19th century United States, intended to be a milieu within which female students could gather at a time when women had just recently been permitted to attend universities alongside men. The

University of Calgary is home to two of them, Alpha Gamma Delta and Alpha Omicron Pi — the former established in 1983, and the latter colonized in 1985.

The reality is, sororities — especially those in Alberta — aren't what *Legally Blonde* or certain urban legends would lead you to believe. No, dearest readers, I did not have to drink goat's blood or swallow a

sorority life is still more superficial than transcendent, more "strategic acquaintance" than "sister," more, well . . . high school than university.

Do you remember being 17? I was a wide-eyed Haskayne freshman in September of 2008. There are few things more appealing to the new undergraduate woman than the promise of an unconditionally support-

I didn't even understand. In my first year, I was allowed to peek into a little box full of very interesting things, and here I try to make sense and describe what I saw.

Despite the fact that men are excluded from membership, sororities are not wholly female-centred. Many events are based almost exclusively on the participation of men, and furthermore, a "sorority-approved" type of man — the fraternity brother. In October of my first year, my sorority's mini-golf mixer with the Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) fraternity was nicely timed to precede the fraternity's formal a few weeks later, the formal being an event that brothers were expected to bring dates to. When a FIJI pledge expressed an interest in me that night and in the days after, I was dropped some not-so-subtle hints by my sisters to accept a formal invitation from him, if such an invitation were to arrive.

There were implicit rules of romantic and sexual association — it was okay to go to a date function with this brother, but not that one. It was okay to be romantically or

“One of a sorority chapter's main goals is legitimization through keeping up appearances.”

goldfish. No, curious friends, I didn't have to wear pink on Wednesdays or dye my hair blonde. No, pervy guys in my first-year statistics class, there were no half-naked pillow fights involved. After 8 months as an initiated sister, however, I realized that

ive network of fellow females who seem to have university dialed in. This is precisely why, by that November, I would find myself in the basement of a girl I hardly knew committing my life-long allegiance to an organization whose name was in a language

## Faculty Wars Dodge Ball! Students' Union Launches the Second Faculty Wars for This Year

**Matt Diteljan**  
VP Student Life



It's about that time of the year: you have pulled three consecutive all nighters finishing up those final papers and final group projects, and now you just want to let loose a little bit before you overdose on coffee and 5-hour energies during finals. You pretty much want to hit someone in the face.

Well, I have just the thing for you. Sign up a team for the Faculty Wars Dodge Ball tournament on December 9th and you can hit as many people in the face with dodge balls as you want. Teams will be competing

from all different faculties, clubs, residence floors, and student groups on campus. There will be over \$3,000 in prizes, live music, an after party at the Den, and

“... where and how do I sign up a team for this spectacle of human nature?”

most importantly, the opportunity to be known as the best dodge ball athletes on campus.

I know what you're thinking. You're thinking “where

and how do I sign up a team for this spectacle of human nature?” Simple. Go to [www.facultywars.com](http://www.facultywars.com) and fill out the registration form. This is not something you will want to miss. The costumes are incredible, the prizes are unreal, and the competition is unlike any dodge ball game you have ever seen.

See you on the battlefield! Registration deadline: December 2, 2011.

Diteljan



sexually involved with a brother in a fraternity that your sorority favoured, but not too many of them in too close a time frame, because it would reflect badly on the sorority.

As sorority sisters, we were not overtly pressured, but definitely subtly encouraged to favour romantic and even sexual relationships with fraternity men over non-fraternity men. This is a tactic that keeps romance and sex within the “family” of U of C Greeks, thus rendering it safe, manageable and ultimately able to be monitored.

Although it is unfair to generalize that every sorority member engages in this type of behaviour, the affirmation of gender roles and construction of a certain female identity is perpetuated by the institution of the sorority. Sexuality is regulated through a virgin-whore dichotomy that simultaneously endeavours to uphold the sorority’s image of ladylike propriety

while remaining desirable to its male counterparts. This was evident in my former sorority’s annual February bash, called “Crush Party,” an event wherein sisters were expected to bring one or two people (read: males) to an alcohol-fuelled club event on whom they had a romantic or sexual “crush.”

In the Greek community, belonging is homogeneity, at least along socioeconomic and sexual lines. If you are not single, affluent and heterosexual, you are an outsider. I know that some of my former sorority sisters who were in relationships felt somewhat uncomfortable with the “match-maker” undertones of fraternity mixers, and I cannot fathom how this would potentially make a queer sister feel.

One of my former sisters, who ended up cutting ties with the organization a few months after I did, explains the sorority’s fixation on female identity in this way: “They’re selling you this false sense

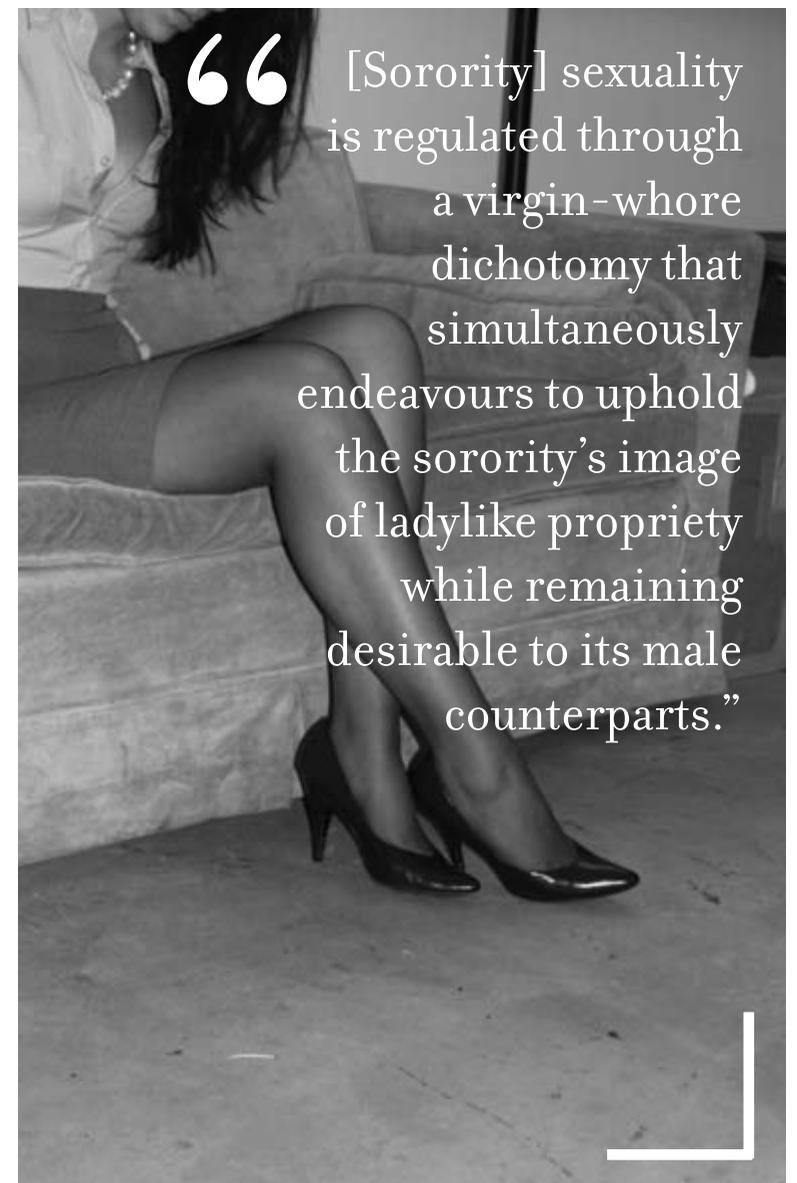
of womanhood [that is] manicured, polished, accomplished.” She describes the sorority “as a product — selling identity, womanhood, social acceptance and social security” to undergraduate women in exchange for financial compensation.

Image in the sorority is much more than pearls and business formal attire, but not entirely divorced from it. One of a sorority chapter’s main goals is legitimization through keeping up appearances. Accusations of a sorority’s lack of involvement in the larger community are quickly refuted with claims of its emphasis on philanthropy, a term that essentially refers to raising money for causes like the Arthritis Foundation a few times a year. Community service, though, takes a backseat to money-raising in sorority life. Almost all of my sorority’s “do-good” efforts were centred on collecting donations, instead of more hands-on acts of volunteerism that required involvement beyond making a few posters. As the year wore on, I realized that philanthropy was a way of masking what my sorority really was at its core — a business and social organization that ultimately cared more about recruiting new members to pay dues than improving the community at large. Philanthropy, though not a bad thing to do by any means, allowed the members of my sorority to do “just enough” to keep up appearances within the community and thus justify its own existence.

Sorority image also has a physical component. My former sister notes the ridiculous emails she received from the sorority’s vice-president of membership recruitment that put stipulations on how sisters were to groom themselves during rush, down to how their upper lips should be waxed. Rules like this were presumably put in place with the ultimate goal of attracting new members. My former sister is open about how sisters were taught to carefully construct their conversations with potential new members to glean certain bits of information from them — things like their high school average (would they maintain the necessary GPA of 2.0 to remain in the sorority?), what their parents do for a living (would they be able to pay dues?) and what their activities were in high school (would they be likely to take on an executive position within the sorority?). It is important to note here that if a sorority chapter does not initiate a certain amount of members each recruitment period, they are

in danger of having their charter revoked and being ordered to shut down by their international administration. Potential new members, then, are primarily investments applicable toward the sorority’s internally-focused goal of perpetuating itself in some sort of infinite loop that bears little fruit for the greater U of C campus community. Image, then, is a way to procure these investments, and sexual identity construction under the guise of sisterhood is a way to keep them yours.

campus of 30,000 to an intimate group of 80 “instant friends” that can be accessed for a yearly fee of about \$800 in my case is, sadly, extremely tempting. On a more personal level, having 20 older girls who seem polished and put-together both aesthetically, academically and professionally choose you to join their ranks feels better than scoring a seat in the TFDL after only 30 seconds of wandering around. Even the name by which sororities call their selection process




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Another way that sororities do this is through constructing notions of power.

At the U of C, where the Greek community’s approximately 80 members make up about 0.003 per cent of the entire university population of 31,509 (as of Fall 2011), a small group’s quest for influence must be predicated on creating social distance between itself and the campus “proletariat.” The means? Exclusivity. The end? Power, expressed through social capital and the pursuit of on-campus influence.

Exclusivity is what makes sorority membership so appealing to a 17-year-old freshman, or even a 20-year-old junior. Reducing a

— “preference parties” — carries with it undertones of being socially desired, something that every undergraduate yearns for in the impersonal environment of university. It’s why we join clubs, opt to study in the TFDL with 200 other people milling about and go to ThursDen. Socially, it’s a basic need.

In her book *Pledged: The Secret Life of Sororities*, journalist Alexandra Robbins explains this allure of sororities as “an automatic sense of belonging, no talent or niche required.” How absurd is it that 20 girls who have known you for all of six weeks are ready to pledge their eternal sisterly devotion to you?

The ultimate tragedy of the SORORITIES continued, pg 17.

# SORORITIES, continued from pg. 15

women's fraternity is that its founding principles serve not as roots, but as foils to what a sorority is today — that what a sorority is at its core fails to resonate with the gospel of goodwill and friendship that it outwardly preaches. Sororities are a wonderful idea in theory — women aiming to band together to effect positive societal change can have tremendously positive implications. This possible greatness, however, is inevitably crippled by the same elitism, exclusivity and institutional bureaucracy that requires the sorority to put all its effort into simply sustaining and legitimizing itself. Because of this, "lifelong sisterhood" grew old for me well before its supposed non-existent expiry date.

Partly because I was not told the truth about the amount of dues I would have to pay over four years and partly because I was sick of being told how to judge a potential new "sister" by her Facebook profile and her high school average, I committed the sorority equivalent of apostasy and asked that my name be struck from the chapter roster in April of 2009. Today, only one of the 14 girls that I initiated with in the fall of 2008 remains an active member of my former sorority. Most of what is called my "pledge class" similarly defected.

At the end of 8 months, I didn't wish for my identity as a woman to be groomed and regulated, but celebrated. I didn't want to see fellow women as sources of sorority income, but as friends. I didn't want to be in an exclusive clique, but smack-dab in the middle of university life.

That fall, I searched for another organization on campus that dedicated itself to women's empowerment, and soon found myself leading workshops at the Women's Resource Centre and becoming involved with the Women in Leadership club. I made the brave trek to the third floor of MacHall, wrote my first piece for the *Gauntlet*, and eventually landed a job on its editorial board. I scored a marketing internship, switched faculties, raised my GPA to a 3.8 and started to use my hard-earned money to put gas in my car instead of writing cheques to an office in Tennessee. Not that it would have been impossible for me to do these things while being a sorority member, but deciding to change my community involvement outlook from exclusive to inclusive led me to seek out

opportunities that I wouldn't have otherwise — and let's be honest, three-hour meetings every week in binding business attire was something I don't miss.

What did I give up? Well, I lost about 20 acquaintances, but kept three good friends. I was no longer invited to sit at the "Greek" tables in MacHall during my breaks. (Yes, there are "Greek" tables, like in a high school cafeteria.) I had to return all my sorority paraphernalia, down to a plastic cup with my sorority's letters stamped on it that I used to brush my teeth with. (That was sad. I really liked that cup.)

Despite all its institutional flaws and obsession with personalized kitchenware, spending a year in a U of C sorority may have been the best decision that I have made in my university career. Ultimately, it

connected me with a diverse wealth of people — good people, in fact. An older sister offered to pay my sorority dues when I was unable to, and another coached me through a study plan when I struggled academically. Sorority involvement also alerted me to the importance of extracurricular leadership as a way to enhance the university experience, an invaluable lesson as a commuter student.

But even Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde* eventually had to leave the Delta Nu house and move on to law school. As for me, well, I'm \$2,400 richer and infinitely happier. To the women who will initiate at the beginning of December, you don't need three Greek letters to experience real "sisterhood." Think before you join a U of C sorority.

## Letter: *Gauntlet* comic extremely offensive to Sikhs

The most recent edition of the *Gauntlet* newspaper [Nov. 17, 2011] has an extremely offensive comic on the last page. The "Network Admin" comic depicts a man sitting in a cauldron being boiled alive and in the caption it states "I ain't even mad." That man is the fifth Sikh Guru, Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji. This picture is extremely disgusting and is very offensive because Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji was being executed for being a Sikh. Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji stood up to the Islamic leaders and did not give in to their attempts to convert him to Islam.

For defending Sikhism he was brutally tortured. First, he was forced to sit on a red hot pan and scalding sand was poured over his body — his body was covered in blisters. After they poured the hot sand on him they placed him in a large cauldron and boiled him alive. As he was slowly being killed Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji was calm and was praying. This horrendous comic is the equivalent of making a joke about Jesus as he was being nailed to the cross.

**Gaganjeet Tamber**  
Student-at-Large

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# “I hate the indifferent . . .”

**Remi Watts**

At war all the same



The preeminent cultural critic Antonio Gramsci matter-of-factly pointed out that the most significant hindrance to social betterment is neither corrupt corporate/bourgeois government nor looming fascism. Rather, the most sizeable obstruction keeping society from realizing higher potentials is the menacing force that is indifference. Gramsci states:

“I hate the indifferent . . . Indifference and apathy are parasitism, perversion, not life . . . The indifference is the deadweight of history. The indifference operates with great power on history. The indifference operates passively, but it operates. It is fate, that which cannot be counted on. It twists programs and ruins the best-conceived plans. It is the raw material that ruins intelligence. That what happens, the evil that weighs upon all, happens because the human mass abdicates to their will; allows laws to be promulgated that only the revolt could nullify, and leaves men that only a mutiny will be able to overthrow to achieve the power.”

I too hate the indifferent. We, as university students in the 21st century, have an unprecedented amount of potential laid out before us. We are inundated with information. We have immediate, instant and often limitless access to any event unfolding anywhere on globe. The tools for enacting change that are available to us are greater than ever before. The level of stability and the privileges that many of us are afforded give us amounts of leverage, mobility and general freedom that few people in history have ever been witness to. And yet most of us do nothing. We are all aware, or at least have the time, energy and resources to make ourselves aware, of the crises manifesting themselves both home and abroad.

We know that other nations, geographies, cultures and people have been systematically raped and pillaged by the hands of our governments and the corporations for whom we work. We know that here in Canada our government has lost accountability. We know that our banking system, which is based on the same principles as the now broken American banking system, has burdened our society with more debt than we could ever hope to reconcile. We know we extract resources in a highly unsustainable manner.

We know that most institutions exist to make profit, not to benefit people’s well-being. We know that proper political representation has become a farce. We know that racism is as alive and violent as ever. We know we’ve built our homes on land stolen from the aboriginal peoples, and that we continue to subjugate them. We know our food and water supply is poisoned. We know that our system of exchange embodies the logic of a

**“ [alert] the stoned citizenry that if they don’t join in the war they are at war all the same” — Tiqqun.**

cancer cell. We know that the education we are receiving is losing its value exponentially — that barely any of us who manage to graduate will be hireable in the near future. We know that media delivers information that is filtered through the lens of corporate and political agendas. We know that our communities are fragmented. We know that our system condemns people to poverty or to the streets. We know freedom of speech is at risk of going extinct. We know people

go hungry. We know people are denied basic human dignity. But we’ve forgotten that it is the duty of each and every one of us to face the encircling storm. We are struck with, as Slavoj Žižek said, “such a blindness, such a violent gesture of refusing-to-see, such a disavowal-of-reality, such a fetishistic attitude of ‘I know that things are horrible [everywhere] . . . but I nonetheless believe [in the system].”

There is no valid excuse for looking at the world’s situation and responding with indifference. It is not enough to wait until things are finally so bad that we can no longer possibly continue — which is the failed logic of those, like so many amongst us, who only dream of potentials, of brilliant future histories, rather than realizing them. Or is it the case, rather, that even the imaginations of the many have also become indifferent?

Each and every one of us must realize that we are utterly accountable to ourselves, to one another and to the world as a whole. No one gets off the hook. We are waging a new war against the system of injustices — with only one goal in mind: annihilation. Indifference is what holds us back. But, at least, I am here, as Tiqqun proclaimed, to “[alert] the stoned citizenry that if they don’t join in the war they are at war all the same . . .”

## CJSW ON-AIR GUIDE

	<i>sun</i>	<i>mon</i>	<i>tues</i>	<i>wed</i>	<i>thurs</i>	<i>fri</i>	<i>sat</i>					
5:30	cjsw echo chamber	some velvet mornings	morning joy	syncopation nation	morning joy	my two cents flat	tea time with annie <i>(continued)</i>	5:30				
6 am								6 am				
6:30								6:30				
7 am	alternative radio	breaking the tethers	am mixtape	the morning after	soapbox derby/ the get up	the house blend	democracy now!	7 am				
7:30								7:30				
8 am	counterspin	morning mix — with BBC updates on the hour from 6 am - 9 am every weekday						bunte welle <i>german</i>	8 am			
8:30	eritrean radio											8:30
9 am	hrvatski radio <i>croatian</i>											9 am
9:30								9:30				
10 am	radyo pilipino <i>filipino</i>	her royal opinion	outside the lines <i>experimental / classical</i>	instant gratification: revoked!	mind folk'd <i>roots</i>	up for it	calgary vietnamese radio	10 am				
10:30								10:30				
11 am	buscando america <i>spanish</i>	students' union weekly	spooning & forking	alternative radio	democracy now!	narrowcasted news	hellenic melodies <i>greek</i>	11 am				
11:30								11:30				
12 pm	deztination worldwide	roger that	the via lactea caboose	freewheelin' <i>sponsored by repubik</i>	pillage the people/ my public shame	daydream dance party <i>sponsored by beatroute magazine</i>	speaking in tongues <i>roots</i>	12 pm				
12:30								12:30				
1 pm	contramandatum						double entendre preserves	1 pm				
1:30								1:30				
2 pm		the new classics	white lodge/ black lodge	off duty trip	truffle shuffle	my allergy to the fans <i>sponsored by tubby dog</i>	flip your wig	2 pm				
2:30								2:30				
3 pm	knotted roots						music to my ears	3 pm				
3:30								3:30				
4 pm	mental illness	aubrey's shindig <i>sponsored by the drum &amp; monkey</i>	electric company	halfway home <i>sponsored by local 522</i>	alternative to what?	road pops <i>sponsored by ffwd weekly</i>	level the vibes	4 pm				
4:30								4:30				
5 pm								5 pm				
5:30								5:30				
6 pm	breaking techniques	french transe en danse	desi vibes	carnival mix	that's so gay!	musiquarium	voice of ethiopia radio oromia	6 pm				
6:30								6:30				
7 pm	mind grapes	south louisiana gumbo <i>roots</i>	tombstone after dark <i>roots</i>	the blues witness <i>roots</i>	folkcetera <i>roots</i>	the dubble bounce	oh africa!	7 pm				
7:30								7:30				
8 pm	katharsis	yeah, what she said fat beat diet	artslink	writer's block		full moon funkalicious	nocturnable	8 pm				
8:30				lift the bandstand	noise <i>experimental / classical</i>			8:30				
9 pm			least side story			dirty needles		9 pm				
9:30								9:30				
10 pm	that's classical? <i>experimental / classical</i>	the spin evolution	radio boys in the shortwave mystery	good character req/ estate sale	funk senden	what will the neighbors think?	megawatt mayhem <i>metal</i>	10 pm				
10:30								10:30				
11 pm		each one teach one	urban sex	am i right??	the twisted brainwrong	remote emissions		11 pm				
11:30								11:30				
12 am	translucent dreams	sweet chin music	twilight banter	blue collar bravado	bass ackwards <i>metal</i>	dna	attention surplus disorder	12 am				
12:30								12:30				
1 am	sunday night groove school					the mix up		1 am				
1:30								1:30				
2 am		the third rail	the freak show	the robotic uprising	rage cage <i>metal</i>			2 am				
2:30								2:30				
3 am	straight on 'til morning					tea time with annie	latin beat	3 am				
5:30								5:30				

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# Dinos look to volley season

**Taylor McKee**  
Gauntlet Sports

There seem to be common words that remain relevant regardless of the sport — consistency is one. After a two-game series over the weekend with the University of Brandon Bobcats, the University of Calgary Dinos men's volleyball squad are faced with the humbling task of regrouping as a .500 squad before heading out on a two-game road trip to face the University of British Columbia (5-1) on Nov. 25-26. The Dinos were defeated three sets to one (20-25, 23-25, 25-20, 20-25) on Saturday. Brandon earned only their second win of the season and now sit at 2-6. The Dinos's loss came after a 3-1 win over Brandon on Friday.

After capturing their ninth Husky Dino Cup title in October, the Dinos have struggled to hit their stride, managing a 4-4 record so far. The split result with Brandon mirrors a similar result with Thompson Rivers University in late October that also resulted in

the Dinos winning on Friday and losing the following day. The Dinos clearly have the players to compete in the top-tier Canada West Conference. The veteran-laden squad features five returning fifth-year players, including 2010-11 first team all-star and Canadian Interuniversity Sport player of the year Graham Vigrass. Ranked fourth in the CIS going into this weekend's action, the Dinos have high standards for their 2011-12 season and hope to rekindle some of the magic that contributed to their 2010 national championship. Though each game was close in score, losing the second match irked head coach Rod Durrant, who is confident in the team.

"We have a talented group of guys with a lot of experience and we are pleased with the work ethic and the effort, but we are really struggling with consistency and putting together back-to-back performances," Durrant said. "We came out and we weren't able to make adjustments."

Durrant, who sports an impressive .600 winning percentage



Gauntlet file photo

The Dinos men's volleyball team hope to improve their 4-4 season.

(54-36) as head coach of the Dinos since 2006, led the team to become the 2010 national champions.

The Dinos struggled against Brandon with unforced errors and miscommunications, two factors on which the Dinos need to improve moving forward.

"We need to be engaged, point-

by-point and do the little things really well. Right now, we are just making too many mistakes at the wrong time," said Durrant.

Fifth-year libero Jace Richards echoed Durrant's frustrations.

"A lot of errors and lack of communication caused the poor play on our side," said Richards. "[Fri-

day] was a good night and we fell down again. Lack of consistency has been the main issue on our team and that's something we've got to figure out."

Brandon was able to frustrate the Dinos through effective blocking and timely digs, relying heavily on left-side Ben Glue and middle Jonathan Sloane, who combined for 36 of Brandon's 56 kills. Sloane scored nine blocking assists himself — as a team, the Dinos had 12 blocking assists.

"They ran a good offense," said Sloane. "We didn't get the blocks we wanted or the slow-downs we needed. They did a good job of running the middle and we didn't have anything to come back at them."

The Dinos certainly have the team to make a serious run at their second CIS title in three years, but simply aren't firing on all cylinders yet — the talent is there, the work ethic is there and the season is still young.

The next Dinos home game is against UBC Okanagan on Dec. 2 at 8:00 p.m.

## Hurl awarded Canada West defensive player of the year

**Justin Seward**  
Gauntlet Sports

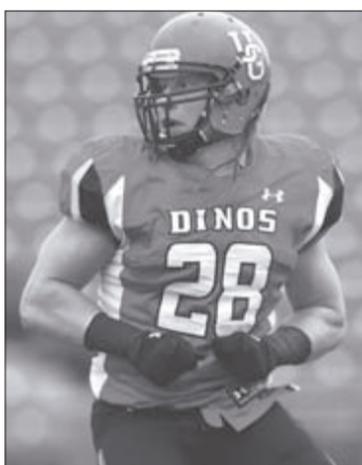
The University of Calgary Dinos football squad had a phenomenal year, with a near perfect season and their fourth-straight Hardy Cup. They faced off in the Mitchell Bowl against the Laval Rouge et Or, who ended the Dinos's season in a heartbreaking loss on Friday.

Despite the loss against Laval, the team had a powerful season, especially for one member of the Dinos's defensive core, linebacker Sam Hurl. Hurl is the Canada West nominee for the Presidents'

Trophy, Canadian Interuniversity Sport's defensive player of the year. It's the second consecutive year that Hurl has won the Canada West nomination. He was also named to the Canada West all-star team for the second time.

"It's exciting for me and I'm really pumped about it as it's a real big award and it means a lot to me," said Hurl, a third-year business student. When Hurl was slotted into the lineup last season, he was shuffled around the defensive core through four positions and finally found a home as a middle linebacker.

"Last year I moved around a



Courtesy of David Moll/ Dinos athletics

bunch and tried a lot of different positions. This year I just played

one position, which helps me focus on one duty on the field," said Hurl. He describe himself as a hardworking, playmaking, "all-around-the-field" type of player.

Dinos head coach Blake Nill had nothing but praise for his popular linebacker: "Sam [Hurl] came to us as a 17-year-old and just progressed over the years — he is going to be a CFLer."

Nill said Hurl has made an impact both on and off the field, whether making a big play or exceeding academically. "He is a guy that everyone looks up to. He is a leader out there and he is a very critical part of the defensive unit

and succeeds in the classroom."

Hurl, who was born and raised in Calgary, gives credit to his teammates and coaches for his success. "The staff is unbelievable here and I credit the award to everyone on the defensive side of the ball," said Hurl.

Before Hurl, the last Dino to capture the prestigious Canada West outstanding defensive player award was Andrea Bonaventura in 2008. The only Dino to ever win the Presidents' Trophy was defensive back Darcy Kopp in 1985 and Hurl hopes this year it's his.

The trophy will be awarded on Nov. 24 in Vancouver.

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# Football squad outed by Laval, again

Justin Azevedo  
Gauntlet Sports

For the second week in a row, the University of Calgary Dinos football team took part in a blowout. Unfortunately for the boys in red, this time they were on the losing end.

Coming off an impressive Hardy Cup victory over the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds, the Dinos prepared all week — and really, all year — for their opponents, Laval Rouge et Or.

The Dinos had Laval where they wanted them — McMahon Stadium with the home crowd and an environment suited to running the football (-23 Celsius and windy). The Dinos were eager to avenge their Vanier Cup loss from last November — a 29-2 thrashing at Laval's hands.

The game started off promising for the Dinos, with defensive back Tye Noble taking an interception off Laval quarterback Bruno

Prud'Homme's pass on Laval's fifth offensive play of the game.

"For the most part, the defense played pretty well with the field position we were given and I did as best as I could," said Noble.

As soon as the first quarter ended, however, the wheels came off and the Dinos's season came crashing down. The ground game completely evaporated with only 10 attempts for 43 yards, highlighted by 1,200 yard rusher Stephen Lumbala's three attempts for seven yards. Part of the dearth of rushing attempts was due to an unbelievable four fumbles — Taylor Nill and Adam Ballingall on punt returns, Kevan Hafichuk on a fake punt and an inexplicable sequence where Chris Dobko ran the opening kickoff of the second half out of the end zone and then ran back only to fumble in the Dinos end.

"I don't even know how to explain it. We just made some uncharacteristic mistakes, especially for this team,"

said Dinos head coach Blake Nill.

It wasn't just an excellent opponent that ended the Dinos's season, however. At times, the officiating was highly suspect — Laval's second touchdown was counted even though it was clear the receiver, Guillaume Rioux, was out of bounds.

To be fair to the referees, even with fair officiating the Dinos would have come short. Yes, the Dinos had good plays — quarterback Eric Dzwilewski rushed for 82 yards, Noble had an interception for a touchdown and the defense kept Laval in check for the first half. Mistakes, however, like nine dropped passes, four that would have been first downs, and four special teams turnovers leading to 24 points against would kill any team's chance of victory.

"Four-straight years now we've been to a bowl game or national championship and lost," remarked Noble. "It's pretty depressing, [working] three or four hours every day of



Justin Seward/the Gauntlet

the year to have this happen . . . it's tough to deal with."

So, what's next for the Dinos? First, they'll say goodbye to six seniors this year — running backs Anthony Woodson and the U of C's all-time rushing yards and rushing touchdown leader Matt Walter, defensive lineman Kyle Carbert and defensive backs Chudi Nzekwu and Michael Lau.

The future outlook, however, is overwhelmingly positive. The

Dinos will mature next year — Dzwilewski will enter his third year and playmakers Lumbala and Sam Hurl will enter their fourth.

Just as the Hardy Cup was a team victory, the Mitchell Bowl was a team loss. It is likely the Dinos will compete for their fifth-straight Hardy Cup and a spot in the Vanier Cup next year, but for Nill and the rest of the team, another long winter of reflecting on what could have been awaits.



Sydney Stokoe/the Gauntlet

## Old man Pete's bouldering competition

The University of Calgary outdoor centre hosted a bouldering tournament on Nov. 19 called "Old Man Pete's Bouldering Competition," named after a living bouldering legend. Climber Corey Im [shown] placed fifth in the men's expert category. Congratulations to former photo editor Sydney Stokoe, who placed first in the women's intermediate category.

### The Dinos this week

Friday, November 18

**FOOTBALL:** Laval 41, Dinos 10 (CIS Mitchell Bowl in Calgary)

**MEN'S BASKETBALL:** Regina 83, Dinos 74 (in Regina)

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** Regina 69, Dinos 54 (in Regina)

**MEN'S HOCKEY:** U of S 1, Dinos 3 (in Calgary)

**WOMEN'S HOCKEY:** U of S 5, Dinos 3 (in Saskatoon)

**WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL:** Brandon 0, Dinos 3 (in Calgary)

**MEN'S VOLLEYBALL:** Dinos 3, Brandon 1 (in Calgary)

Saturday, November 19

**MEN'S HOCKEY:** U of S 3, Dinos 4 (OT in Calgary)

**WOMEN'S HOCKEY:** Dinos 6, U of S 2 (in Saskatoon)

**WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL:** Brandon 1, Dinos 3 (in Calgary)

**MEN'S VOLLEYBALL:** Dinos 1, Brandon 3 (in Calgary)

**MEN'S BASKETBALL:** Regina 93, Dinos 91 (2OT in Regina)

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** Regina 84, Dinos 67 (in Regina)

**OPEN 9 AM  
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Hey, where did my comic go? Did you do something with it, airy?

Why has some lady's comic replaced mine? This is reverse sexism!

LIFE SCREAM — SEAN WILLETT

IT'S NOT EASY HAVING OVARIES — ANDRÉA ROJAS



"Not to be confused with the Clock King, an actual Batman villain."

STERCUM ACCIDIT — KURT GENEST



NETWORK ADMIN



— respect to hoodie allen, xoxo, a.

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